

Environmental Health & Safety (EHS)

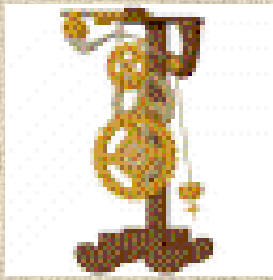
Brief

to

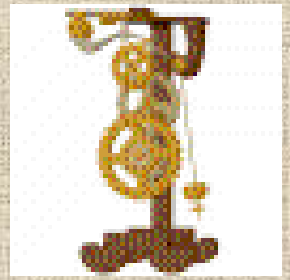
Fall 2000 Faculty Assembly

By

**CDR Shawn O'Toole
Director, EHS**



Safety Violations Recently Observed



- Scotch, wine, and food in a refrigerator used for chemicals
- Children (less than 16 years) in labs
- Chemical Waste left in hall unattended (Potential \$25,000 dollar fine)
- Xylene poured in drain & contractors cutting pipe (Possible explosion)
- Class IV laser with no eye protection during beam alignment
- Four Mercury spills that take 2 to 3 hours of EHS response time
- Chemical Fume hood not working and last calibrated in 1985
- Formaldehyde spill due to waste not stored in a secondary container



EHS Continuous Improvement Ideas/Actions



- Move from Protocol documentation to lab compliance (*Encl 1 & 2*)
- Remove Chemical Lists from BCD Protocols and only justify Extremely Hazardous Chemicals (*Encl 3*)
- Establish certain “Free Items” in Self-Serv Store
- Reduce restrictions on ordering chemicals with Govt. Purchase Credit Card (*Encl 4*)
- Exchange Hg thermometers with alcohol



EHS Continuous Improvement Ideas/Actions



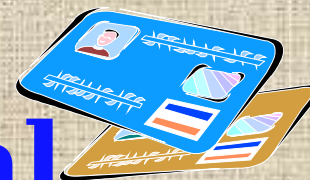
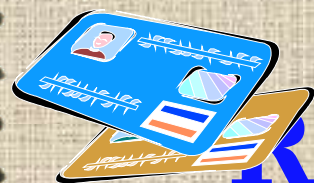
- Decrease Lab safety training for lab technicians to every 3 years (encl 5)
- Make Blood Pathogen Training available using web versus classroom...still required annually
- Certify PI training (encl 5)
 - ✓ Certification includes lab inspection results
 - ✓ If certified, safety assurance given by EHS on protocol
 - ✓ Loss of certification could result from lab inspection
 - ✓ PI will receive periodic training during EHS



Details of Lab Inspections



- Methods being “*Beta Tested*” in MIC
- Pre- inspection checklist by letter & web (Encl 1)
- Inbrief with PIs
- Discrepancies categorized into risk levels
- Corrective action times based on risk levels
- Lab Results directly correlated with “Safety Assurance” certification for



Details of Reducing Chemical Ordering Restrictions

- All level 4 (most dangerous) chemical shall be ordered through CUFS (Encl 3)
- All other chemicals can be ordered without EHS approval, just update chemical inventory and ensure MSDS is on file (RACs)
- List of extremely hazardous chemicals will be constantly updated by EHS (Encl 5)



Summary



- **1. Request your feedback and comments on these proposals.**

- 2. Request your support of EHS' reasonable steps to accomplishing our mission of...
“Protecting the USU Family”